

Southeast Asia, is the largest and oldest of the regional bilateral aid programs administered by CIDA. It was allocated \$160 million in 1973-74 and \$244 million in 1974-75. However, because of the size of the Asian population it has much less impact than aid from Canada has in such areas as the Caribbean or parts of Africa.

Since 1951 Canada has provided more than \$2 billion in bilateral aid, most of it directed to Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. In recent years Canada's program in this area has changed considerably. Capital assistance, in the form of loans and grants, is now provided for specific economic sectors given priority by the recipient countries in fields such as communications, transportation, electric power development, agriculture, fisheries, mining, lumbering, medicine and public health.

CIDA's programs in francophone Africa, which includes the eight least developed nations of the world, were initially concentrated on technical assistance projects particularly in education and health. Since 1970, however, Canada has broadened the scope of its assistance and increased its support in the area from \$29.7 million to \$106.0 million in 1974-75. Canada has become increasingly involved in the economic development of the region through projects that combine capital and technical assistance, and which accord with the priorities of the countries concerned.

The Special Commonwealth Africa Assistance Plan resulted from discussions at the 1960 Commonwealth Prime Ministers' meeting. Canadian assistance to Commonwealth Africa has grown from an initial provision for technical and educational assistance to include a variety of capital projects and pre-investment surveys. Undertakings in the fields of energy, transportation, communications, agriculture and economic planning in eastern and southern Africa have balanced an original focus on west Africa. Between 1960 and March 1974, Canada contributed \$364 million to bilateral development programs in the region. In 1974-75 the allocation for Commonwealth Africa was \$97.5 million, for projects ranging from mining to beekeeping.

Canadian economic and technical assistance to the Commonwealth Caribbean began in 1958. Since then the region has received more Canadian aid per capita than any other area of the world. Canada's bilateral allocations, amounting to more than \$183 million since 1964 including \$24.0 million in 1974-75, have contributed to construction projects, transportation surveys, water systems, medical assistance, support for the University of the West Indies and other projects.

In 1971 CIDA began a bilateral technical assistance program concentrating on agriculture, forestry, fisheries, education and community development. In 1974-75 a bilateral loan program was introduced; disbursements in Latin America are expected to be \$20.0 million.

CIDA is also involved with non-governmental aid organizations and business and industry. In the 1968-69 fiscal year \$5 million was allocated to help voluntary agencies increase their contribution to international development. This figure had risen to \$26 million by 1974-75. It has been estimated that the total value of private assistance to developing nations from Canadian organizations is about \$50 million annually.

CIDA has become involved in the private sector of developing countries' economies and expanding suitable Canadian enterprises overseas. The organization works with Canadian business, the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce, international finance corporations, development banks, and overseas corporations to identify and help finance worthwhile investment opportunities in all types of secondary industry in the developing world.

**The Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan** was established in 1958 to give promising Commonwealth students the opportunity to study in other member countries. Britain provides half of the annual scholarships and Canada one quarter. Since 1969 the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada has administered the Plan and CIDA has provided the funds. In January 1975, 263 students were on scholarships and expenditures were about \$1.9 million.

In 1965 Canada introduced research and visiting fellowships as part of the Canadian contribution to the Plan. Professors from other Commonwealth countries are invited to visit Canadian universities and educational institutions to carry out research in their field.

**Commonwealth Fund for Technical Cooperation.** Established in April 1971 following a Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference and administered by the Commonwealth